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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A friction resistant blade comprising a blade shaped substrate base with an edge and a protective layer applied to all areas of the blade shaped substrate wherein the substrate base is comprised of carbon strip steel and coiled and further wherein said protective layer ~~is~~ consists essentially of electroless nickel.

Claims 2-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (original): The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the edge is beveled.

Claim 7 (original): The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the edge is square.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method of producing a friction resistant blade comprising applying a protective layer to a blade-shaped substrate base, said layer being applied to all areas of the blade-shaped substrate wherein said protective layer ~~is~~ consists essentially of electroless nickel, and wherein said blade-shaped substrate base is carbon strip steel.

Claims 9-10: (canceled).